CHAPTER

Fairness to the Fair-Sex

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The constitutional and legislative provisions in India guarantee, by many words and expressions, for an equal and for full opportunities to all the children for their growth and development, irrespective of their sex each, yet a girl child can, barley, get to see her 15th birthday. Out of the 15 million baby girls, born in this country every year, nearly 25% of them do not reach their 15th year of age. According to another report, about 12 million girls take their birth each in India, every year but 3 million of those are not able to survive even to see their 15th birthday. And about one-third of such deaths do occur, so sooner, even during the first year of the lives of such girl-children.

The alarming data of atrocities afflicted to the women in the country is quite a big fear-psychosis that haunts the parents when they learn that every 26 minutes a woman is molested, every 34 minutes a rape takes place, every 42 minutes a sexual harassment incident occurs, every 43 minutes a woman is kidnapped and that every 93 minutes a woman is burnt to death over dowry. To the height of all this, one-quarter of the reported rapes do involve the girls under the age of 16. This is more than enough to shiver the